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# SIERRA

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## CLUB BULLETIN



A world from which solitude is extirpated is a very poor ideal . . .  
Nor is there much satisfaction in contemplating the world  
with nothing left to the spontaneous activity of nature

—John Stuart Mill, 1806–1873

Scenic Resources Review for 1958

## Our Basic Purposes

THE little group of twenty-seven men who gathered about John Muir and signed the Articles of Incorporation of the Sierra Club on June 4, 1892, stated its purposes in these words: "Know all men by these presents: . . . Article III. That the purposes for which this Corporation is formed are as follows, to wit: To explore, enjoy and render accessible the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast; to publish authentic information concerning them; to enlist the support and coöperation of the people and the government in preserving the forests and other natural features of the Sierra Nevada Mountains: . . ." (The rest has to do with the fiscal operations of the club, and need not concern us at this time.)

Sixty-seven years later this statement remains almost unchanged and gives today a good thumbnail sketch of what the club and its members are busy about. We no longer need to carry "render accessible" on our banner. We no longer need to "explore" in terms of mapmaking. Exploration and enjoyment go together now for great numbers of us, through club and chapter Outing Committee leadership. We continue to publish "authentic information" about all our wild and scenic primitive country, whether in mountains, canyons, coastline or desert—less in the out-of-door adventure field, more on the needs for wilderness and for its pres-

ervation. We have reached the full realization that unless we can keep some wild country wild, we shall not have any to explore or to enjoy. Preservation has inevitably become our central theme and objective—the major reason for our being.

Preservation is by no means a new objective. Even before we organized as a fighting force, battles were being waged to save some of our choicest scenic wild areas. Creation of the larger Yosemite National Park, and the return of badly mismanaged Yosemite Valley State Park to Federal protection, were inspired and spearheaded by Muir. He and his Sierra Club won the fight to exclude cattle and sheep grazing from our national parks. Creation of the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks was another of Muir's dreams which the Sierra Club helped to come true. The battle to save Hetch Hetchy was fought for years—only to end in a tragic loss, since San Francisco could have had the same water and the same power without invading park boundaries. Public reaction to this sacrifice led to the National Parks Act of 1916 and the creation of the National Park Service—a trained and dedi-

cated Federal organization responsible to Congress and the public to so plan and administer these unique reserves that they would remain "unimpaired." By and large, over the forty years, they have done a splendid job—in restrained development, and in protection of this magnificent system of national parks.

The problems we work on today are more numerous and perhaps of greater urgency than they were in the decade or two after the club was born. But in general they are much the same. Because they are so numerous and so pressing, we find ourselves battling along many fronts—straining to the utmost our slender financial resources and our wonderfully dedicated volunteer manpower. I shall not enumerate the battle-lines we hold today. They will be found elsewhere in this issue, if you do not already know of them. May I congratulate you—every member of the club—for the gallant army you have been and are! Together we have gone forward. We have lost some battles, but never have we retreated. With wise and courageous leadership, and with all of you in loyal support, we shall continue to fight. If we are to continue to "explore and enjoy" our priceless heritage of unspoiled places we shall have to continue the fight. We might as well enjoy it together too!

HAROLD C. BRADLEY, *President*

## Letters to the Sierra Club

### Sierra Club:

I find in an account of the meeting of the Society of American Foresters in Salt Lake City, Sept. 28-Oct. 1, reference to the recommendations of a panel of professional land managers, among which was:

"Revamp national park regulations to permit salvage logging, some hunting and destruction of undesirable ecological associations."

This seems more sinister than anything I've yet seen. Should we leap to the ramparts or are we already there?

A MEMBER

● On the way. See pages 6-9. Ed.

### Sierra Club:

It is impossible to read the October *Bulletin* without wishing to send at least a word of thanks to the club, and to Ansel Adams and the others, for their valiant efforts to save the glacier-polished rock in Yosemite.

Unfortunately, the *Bulletin* article and Mr. Adams' article in *National Parks Magazine* will reach comparatively few, and not the ones who most need to be educated in these matters. If only *Life* magazine would engage Mr. Adams and Joseph Wood Krutch to combine on a series devoted to the vanishing American wilderness!

DOROTHY GIBBS

### Sierra Club:

What shall I dig next? So this metal monster the trenching machine seems to say, as he pauses to mop his brow between jobs. We snapped him as he looked toward Mount Diablo—and hope he never figures out how to get there!

A MEMBER

COVER: *Trapper Lake, within the proposed Northern Cascades National Park.*

By David R. Simons

THE SIERRA CLUB,\* founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of mountain regions. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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\*Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

Beginning with this issue, the monthly *Sierra Club Bulletin* appears in expanded size, to bring you more information and to use illustrations with greater effect. In coming months, color will be used occasionally (if not yet regularly). The annual magazine number will remain in its present size.



SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN, JANUARY, 1959



# Sierra Club Bulletin

... TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE NATION'S SCENIC RESOURCES ...

JANUARY, 1959

VOLUME 44 NUMBER 1

## Surveys of Recreation Resources

### Nation and State Take Inventory

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IF 1958 was a year of progress in recreation resource planning at both State and Federal levels, it could also be called the Year of the Big Race.

The race was between those who were surveying, projecting and planning for the needs of America in the outdoors, and those who were chipping the outdoor land right out from under the planners. At times the whole procedure resembled the job of measuring a lump of sugar while it was dissolving in a glass of water.

The National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission was finally established by law last year. Its members were named, its budget was allotted, and its tasks were outlined.

Briefly, it was to inventory all of America's national outdoor recreational resources, to determine what the needs will be by 1976 and by the year 2000, and to recommend conservation policies to meet those needs. The Commission's final report is due in 1961.

The Sierra Club and other organizations intimately concerned both for the success of the survey and the future of open space, vainly sought an amendment to the bill that established the Commission.

The amendment would have declared a moratorium on major changes in the existing Federal land use pattern during the life of the survey. The reasoning was obvious: it would be useless to survey some National Forest wild area and find it needed if, when the survey is over, that area had already been turned over to lumbering or some other non-recreation use.

Wilderness, of course, is particularly under threat these days, and this was an important aspect of the Sierra Club's concern.

The amendment failed, and the threat is real. Take these wild recreational lands, e.g.:

—The Kern Plateau, where a million acres are now being considered for organized car camping and for sustained yield timber working circles.

—The Waldo Lake area, just north of Highway 58 in Oregon, which has been wild until now, but where the Forest Service is also considering lumber operations and developed recreation facilities.

—The Salmon La Sac-Glacier Peak area

of the Northern Cascades, where the Forest Service is planning to divide and use, piece by piece, a million and a half acres.

—The Point Reyes seashore area of Marin County, Bodega Head on the Sonoma coast, and the Dias property at Mount Tamalpais. All these, too, are involved in the Big Race.

The victory that was represented in the passage of the recreation survey bill will require vigilance and an enormous amount of hard work if it is not to be vitiated between now and 1961.

As Dave Brower put it to the Senate Interior Committee when he argued vainly for a "closed-for-inventory" amendment:

"The country is not so resource-poor that everything must be exploited now, or so rich in scenic resources that it can squander them. It is important to remember that recreational use is now dispersed over all our wild lands, whether they are designated or not. That use must all be concentrated on whatever open space we can save, which will be far less than we have now. And to this concentration will be added tomorrow's heavier load."

AT THE State level, the California Public Outdoor Recreation Plan organization was functioning intensively last year. By law the group must inventory the State's resources, and adopt a full-scale development plan for submission to the Legislature by March of 1960—little more than a year off.

Under executive officer Elmer Aldrich and recreation economist J. Kenneth Decker, the organization and its advisory groups have virtually completed an analysis of California's mushrooming recreational problem.

A survey of day-use recreational facilities has been completed for central California. This winter a group of experts will firm up a depth study of winter sports facilities and needs. Committees from the State's universities will be inventorying scenic resources and wilderness. Questionnaires have been sent to 80 government agencies and to 160 land-using groups, including industrial and conservationist organizations.

With money pouring in from tidelands oil royalties, the State Division of Beaches and Parks has been expanding its activities.

Further expansion will benefit immensely from an intelligent, long-range projection of State needs and potentialities in the recreation field.

But the crucial test will come after the surveys—both State and Federal—are completed. Action will be needed then—action, definitive in nature, to create an orderly pattern of recreational land use that will balance the need for wilderness on one hand and developed areas on the other.

DAVID PERLMAN

### 6th Wilderness Conference Scheduled for March

The Sixth Biennial Wilderness Conference will be held at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, March 20-21, 1959. The theme will be "The Meaning of Wilderness to Science." The Friday sessions will be devoted to the wilderness itself—plants and animals in natural communities, and the value of ecological islands as natural laboratories. The Saturday program will turn to human ecology—population pressure and the impact of man on the wilderness.

Preservation of our small remaining area of wilderness is not a matter of what we say about it, but of what we do about it. Deliberations of the forthcoming conference will be directed not only toward the problem but toward all possible solutions.

These Biennial Wilderness Conferences under the auspices of the Sierra Club, with the coöperation of leading conservation organizations and state and federal agencies, started out very modestly in 1949 with a High Sierra Wilderness Conference held at the Hotel Claremont in Berkeley. Beginning on a local level, they have grown steadily in scope, in attendance, and in achievement, and have become of national interest and importance. The 1959 conference, while still concentrating on North America, will move from a national to an international level.

In view of the heavy registration at earlier conferences (well over four hundred at the Fifth Conference in 1957), persons planning to attend are urged to send their reservations to the Fairmont Hotel at an early date.

## Park Plan at Halfway Mark

As is graphically brought out in a Mother Lode Chapter Conservation Committee report, acquisition of a parcel of real property for State Park purposes is a lengthy procedure. A negotiated purchase takes at least a year, while acquisition by condemnation requires a minimum of two and a half years. Even the steps leading up to and including negotiations with an owner require not less than 270 days.

The acquisition program, of prime importance to the five-year plan of 1956, is now approximately half completed. Over \$16,000,000 of the \$37,000,000 authorized for acquisition of sites has been spent or encumbered. This has been accomplished during a period of staff expansion which in itself is scheduled for five-year completion. It has been estimated that oil royalties may be \$15,000,000 short of what had been anticipated for the next two years. This could cut down the acquisition program by \$7,000,000. We therefore view with regret the \$7,990,000 appropriation by the Legislature from the State Park Fund for development of the site of the Winter Olympic Games.

California's rapid, ever growing population rise is more than sufficient justification for the feeling of conservationists that acquisition of sites is of prime importance, even if it means some delay in the development of acquired areas. Since the acquisition process consumes so much time, it is essential to accomplish it before sites disappear or prices become excessive.

### Tamalpais Tangle

Tamalpais typifies some of the worst features of the entire acquisition program. The issue was simple enough—Marin County, already beginning to suffer from over-use of its public areas from the heavily populated San Francisco Bay region, needs more park. While additions to Tamalpais, which would be ideal for this purpose, were on the master plan for the five-year program, they were limited to the Steep Ravine area. Chapter 2169, Statutes of 1957, which appropriated \$7,500,000 for acquisition and development of twelve projects (including Tamalpais), was an emergency measure written to preserve other vital areas. Its language, however, was officially interpreted to prevent use of these funds until appropriations under the five-year plan were completed. Both acts expire in June, 1961. By May, 1958, a special item in the State's budget included authorization for immediate acquisition of land for Tamalpais, and in September the Division of Beaches and Parks was authorized by the State Park Commission to proceed with appraisals.

The Division's sequence of acquisition ignored the fact that key areas in the Dias

Ranch and Frank Valley had been specifically approved in Chapter 2169, and it was planned to commence the expansion at other points. After frequent and vigorous reminders from conservationists that the most critical areas were the ones named, due to pressure of subdividers, the State Park Commission on December 19 instructed the Division to draw up plans for their acquisition first. This is a record of three years of progress, and the near loss of the most important portions of the Tamalpais area.

Other critical park acquisitions have fared better, and some worse. Año Nuevo Beach State Park was finally acquired at a cost of \$51,094 instead of the \$18,094 it might have cost had the State Park Commission paid the General Services Administration that amount within the two years after the Commission had made the offer and before the GSA decided to auction the former lighthouse site.

### Coast Area Periled

Bodega Head, an area included in the 1956 five-year plan, is in danger. In July the directors of the club urged its acquisition. However, the Pacific Gas & Electric Company was about to commence condemnation of 600 acres for development of a steam or nuclear power plant. Only a small parcel would be required by the PG&E, and the remaining area would be leased to the Division of Beaches and Parks, with some land reserved for a marine biological station planned by the University of California. Condemnation proceedings commenced in October. Citizens' committees opposed to the project as destructive to recreational values have been formed and are actively fighting to preserve as a park an area once thought saved by the legislative appropriation in the five-year plan.

Proposed acquisition by the Navy of 100,000 acres, including 3,520 voted by the State Park Commission for addition to Borrego Park was vigorously opposed. This insult, added to injuries of other military withdrawals, spurred passage of the Engle Bill which requires approval of Congress for withdrawals by the armed services of more than 5,000 acres. An additional threat to Anza-Borrego State Park is the proposed Coyote Creek Road, a shortcut from Los Angeles to Borrego Valley. Alternate and preferable routes have been proposed. One bright spot here was the resolution of the San Diego Board of Supervisors to sell 7,357 acres of tax delinquent land to the Division of Beaches and Parks, instead of selling by auction.

Limitations of current Federal legislation prevent State acquisition of public domain for park purposes to one section (approximately one square mile) per year. This has

A severe loss was suffered by the Mazamas of Portland early in December, when Mazama Lodge, on Mount Hood, was totally destroyed by fire. The lodge, built in 1931, was a base for climbs of Mount Hood, a headquarters for skiers and snowshoers, and a comfortable setting for parties and meetings (such as the convention of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs).

Plans for rebuilding are already under way. Insurance will cover only about half of the estimated cost of replacement. Contributions (and suggestions) may be sent to Mazama Lodge Committee, 909 N.W. 19th Avenue, Portland 9, Oregon.

## Point Reyes Recreation Studies Continue

Establishment of a seashore recreation area along the coast of the Point Reyes Peninsula in Marin County, only an hour or so north of San Francisco, was proposed in a National Park Service report last summer. (See *SCB*, September 1958.)

Representative Clair Engle introduced a resolution which won approval by the House Interior Committee, asking the Interior Department to give "particular attention" to prospects for State, local and private acquisition of the 28,000-acre Point Reyes site. The California Park Commission voted to cooperate in a study of the area and indicated willingness to consider joint Federal-State financing.

At year's end, funds were expected to be available from private sources for an impartial economic study of the comparative results of recreational and other development of the Point Reyes site. When this study has been completed, conservationists believe, the facts will clearly indicate that acquisition for a seashore recreation area is in the public interest.

affected transfer of land in the Mitchell's Caverns area and Mecca Hills in Southern California. In each case, the possibility of lease of the property to the State during the acquisition process is being considered.

Refusal of property owners to sell mineral rights for possible oil in the Butano area has held up purchase of additions to Butano Park. The Division appears reluctant to resort to condemnation; conservationists have requested the State Park Commission to order acquisition notwithstanding.

Where do we stand now? In time, we are halfway through the five-year plan. Half of its acquisition program is completed. Nineteen new park areas have been added. The fastest growing state has the fastest growing state park system. But we wish it could be faster.

JOHN P. SCHAGEN

## Three Tons of Tin

### Clean-up Campaign Makes News

TWENTY-EIGHT Sierra Club clean-up work party volunteers gathered trash from the Kearsarge Pass region and gained an education on the subject of man's irreverence for magnificently beautiful country. The crew had no difficulty identifying the shocking abuse inflicted on the wilderness by many careless campers: the hacked trees; fire-scorched brush; large open dumps; overgrazed meadows; multiple criss-crossing trails; impromptu paths cutting through switchbacks; fire-charred rocks and debris of miscellaneous campfires dotting the open places; abandoned equipment—campstools, tables, old kyacks, corrugated roofing tin, gas cans; duff contaminated with bits of glass, foil, paper; discarded cans, warped shoes, worn-out clothes, trash unlimited piling up behind the trees, between the rock crevices, in the lakes; wet meadows rutted and muddy from foot and hoof travel and pockmarked by eroded can holes, the half-rusted containers jutting through the dirt cover.

Three tons of tin hauled by the packer to the road-end dump in 150 burlap sacks—some 26,000 cans tossed by thoughtless mountain visitors, were an eloquent memorial to the inadequacies of the often repeated theory that "persons who actually visited the high places would be most concerned about their protection."

The inventory of back-country recreational damage points clearly to the need for an all-out campaign to teach the people how and why the high places should be saved—an educational job that is critically necessary as more people with more leisure travel in more and faster cars over more high-speed roadways that lead into the heart of this country's last remaining wilderness.

The work party experiment, coordinated for the first time this past summer with the club-wide outing program, is demonstrating its effectiveness as a deliberate attempt to combat the human impairment of wilderness preserves. The following are some accomplishments of the clean-up hike.



1. As already mentioned, the workers themselves became dramatically aware of the recreational blight on the landscape. They had the gratifying opportunity to put their convictions to work. Men and women from the professions and business, college and high school students, enjoyed the grandeur of the mountains, the comradeship on the job and around the campfire. And also through the work experience and evening exchange of ideas, they gained a greater appreciation of the aesthetic and ecological values of wilderness.

2. The participants implemented the new Sierra Club trash disposal policy succinctly explained on a small poster they tacked at the main campspots: "An empty can weighs less than a full one and takes less room. A can's best way out of the Sierra is the way it came here—in the pack or kyack." The literature of many conservation groups and of the government continues to recommend procedures for burying and "hiding" trash behind the statuary and under the carpet of the wilderness museum—advice that must be changed if the people are to understand the Park idea.

3. The clean-up cause received on-the-trail publicity. Many campers were surprised and pleased when they saw what was going on. Some wanted to know more about the club's principles. Three Explorer Scout troupes visiting the region helped smash cans for half a day and they, too, learned conservation by doing.

4. The party's clean-up message was carried throughout the state over news broadcasts and by many city and rural papers, editorially and in the regular columns. This do-it-yourself example may encourage other people to help preserve and restore the back country.

5. By focusing attention on the recreational impact issue the direct action campaign may promote effective control measures. A Park official writes: "We would be interested in any conclusions you may have reached during your stay at Bullfrog Lake . . . Whatever solutions fit the Bullfrog-Rae Lakes areas would likely be applicable elsewhere in the Parks."

The cooperation between the packer, the club and the Park Service, which made the trip possible, should be continued with the additional organized participation of Scout groups and other high country visitors in a broad-scale attack on the Sierra trash accumulations and on the other forms of man-caused erosion in the parks and forests.

All the techniques of public persuasion known to the mass communicators should be mobilized by citizens with a "conservation conscience" in the race that is still on between education and the threatened disappearance of wilderness. FRED EISSLER

Clean-up  
photographs  
at Bullfrog Lake  
by Rondal Partridge





Justice Douglas with Polly Dyer and Arthur B. Johnson of the Sierra Club

## Olympic Shoreline

In the long stretch of Pacific Coast shared by California, Oregon and Washington, one 50-mile strip may surprise you. Civilization is absent! Only the Indian village of La Push breaks the part of this coastline in Olympic National Park. Civilization, of course, agitates to subject this last primeval stretch to pavement, but fortunately there are many who want to assure for it a place in our nation's future.

Justice William O. Douglas is one of those who believes this remnant portion of wild Washington coast should be preserved as it is. He and kindred spirits banded together to tell the nation of the threat to its unique wilderness ribbon. Last August, 69 backpack-

ers joined Justice Douglas for two and one-half days. They started from the north, hiking from Lake Ozette through forest to the ocean at Cape Alava, thence south to Rialto Beach near La Push, approximately 24 miles.

Walking through this oceanfront wilderness was full of variety—hiking beaches, hopping boulders, slipping on seaweed-covered rocks, balancing on wave-piled driftwood, exploring tidepools, clambering over salal- and spruce-populated headlands when caught by the tide. The exhilaration of nature's solitude—with the wild ocean to starboard and the deep forest to port—brought the special feeling only wilderness experiences can generate.

Exclaiming, "It's wonderful!", the final campfire named an Olympic Beach Strip Committee to continue the opportunity for protecting this wonderful coast and to keep the 70 in touch. Chairman is Justice Douglas; Vice-Chairman is John Osseward (President of Olympic Park Associates, under which the committee will function); Leo Gallagher is secretary.

Conservationists also recommended an alternate road route to serve local communities. The alternate would provide a coastal road north of Olympic National Park for those making a loop trip of the northernmost Olympic Peninsula. The Olympic Beach Strip Committee will have this in mind, too, while being a "Watch Bird" over the wild jewel in the park.

POLLY DYER

## Problems of Oregon's Central Cascades

*The Three Sisters, Upper McKenzie, and Waldo Lake comprise one of Oregon's chief scenic resources. Apprehension is growing about the adequacy of Forest Service law, policy, or intention to protect them. They are high on the list of places which might well be kept unharmed at least until the National Recreation Review is made.—Ed.*

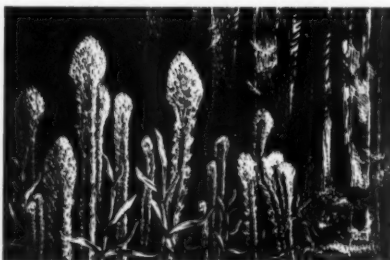
**Three Sisters.** The Willamette Forest has been working on a "multiple use" plan for the 53,000 acres excluded from the Wilderness Area before any "development or cutting" takes place. To support recommendations for Natural Areas there, Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness have had scientists and other professionals make thorough studies, and David Simons and others have done extensive photography. They will shortly file recommendations for areas in the Horsepasture Mountain—Lowder Mountain and Rebel Rock areas.

Scientific studies in both the Wilderness Area and in the excluded portion (for which Dean Henry Hansen and Dr. Robert Storm of Oregon State College received grants from the National Science Foundation) are continuing. These studies were cited in the Bend

hearing on the Wilderness Bill as evidence of the scientific importance of wilderness.

The Willamette Basin Flood Control Committee has requested funds to survey a Horse Creek dam that would back water into the newly established Wilderness.

**Upper McKenzie.** The Oregon State Water Resources Board has ruled that the waters of the Upper McKenzie River Basin from Clear Lake (its source) to river mile 84.5 (below Middle Falls) be withdrawn from all appropriation except for domestic purposes (e.g., for use by campers and the Clear Lake resort). From river mile 84.5 to river mile 76.9 (below the mouth of Smith River) they may be "utilized for the pro-



The generation born in 1919, when early proposals for a Cascades National Park were made, came to adulthood in 1939, when such proposals were all but forgotten in general ignorance of the area and obliterated by economic pressures. In the next two decades, as they gained their first gray hairs and watched their children grow, the undedicated North Cascades-Glacier Peak wilderness was "curtained" and marking time. What chance will the 1959-1979 generation have to know this magnificence as continuing wilderness? If the spreading citizen concern for this superb scenic, wild country means anything, 1979, 1999, 2019 *ad infinitum* should find it even as we do today. Will they?

Owing to the Forest Service's welcome restraint in the half of the area eliminated in 1940 from consideration for wilderness protection, its primeval character remains today. The other half, south of Cascade Pass, has been studied off and on, and in February 1957 a Glacier Peak Wilderness Preference Area was announced by Region VI, U.S. Forest Service. About a year ago the Regional Office's final wilderness boundary recommendations were formalized and sent to Chief Forester Richard McArdle. What this proposal contains, the public doesn't yet know.

Even if it were assumed the Forest Service's Glacier Peak Wilderness proposal might

duction of hydroelectric power commensurate with multipurpose use for fish, wildlife, recreation and domestic," subject to specified requirements. The Save the McKenzie River Association has been revived with William Byrd of Leaburg as president.

**Waldo Lake.** Oregon's highest large lake (except for Crater Lake) is the wildest and most remote of Oregon's large Cascade lakes, and the only one still without commercial development. The Forest Service plans to open it up with a new road from the south, retaining as "recreational area" the usual protective strips along the main road, the skyline trail and around Waldo Lake and one nearby. The rest (much the largest part) would go to "multiple use." Obsidians and the Eugene Natural History Society stand on their support of the Forest Service plan prior to 1953—that it be reclassified as Wild Area, with corridor for the present neglected road to the lake from the east, and reasonable boundary adjustments. The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs and the Sierra Club have asked that action be deferred until after the National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review is evaluated.

KARL ONTHANK

# n Cascades: Embattled Wilderness

include full protection of the minimum wilderness core we deem essential, there is much it cannot do. It cannot, for instance, take action to acquire the mining properties on Miners Ridge—so close to beloved Image Lake. It has been reported that the ore body in adjacent Plummer Mountain will provide thirty years of mining before the ore is exhausted. We have been informed that a townsite across the Suiattle River from Miners Ridge has been "staked out" and a road down the river surveyed, too. For a thirty-year operation a wilderness will be destroyed. Isn't there any way to keep the wilderness intact and forego the short-term ore production? There could be!

OTHER examples to which no Forest Service protective regulation applies are the semi-developed lands adjacent to the wilderness proper. In the case of this periphery outside the wilderness core, their regulation U-3 providing for forest recreation could be utilized. But it doesn't require retention of the natural surroundings for either car campgrounds or tourist accommodations. Logging can be carried out. The Service has no adequate provision for retaining semi-wilderness for the rocking-chair or car-camping visitor. Some of the attractive car-accessible vicinities in this category are along the Cascade River and the Mountain Loop Highway on the west side, the Stehekin Valley and Chiwawa River road on the east. Assured protection of their natural surroundings would preclude pushing further into the last remnants of Cascade wildernesses to provide civilized accommodations in semi-wild settings.

The 1939 elimination where no wilderness protection is under consideration is a third great concern. This is the Eldorado-Park Creek Pass-Rainy Pass-Harts Pass section north of Cascade Pass and the Stehekin Valley. It is under heavy local pressure for a highway bisecting the North Cascades. Recently "... \$900,000 of federal forest-road funds for a start on the first link of a proposed northern cross-state highway" was allocated. This link apparently could serve as a connection to complete the existing Hart's Pass road—one which many conservationists are willing to endorse because it will inflict the least damage and at the same time provide the locally wanted northern highway. More, however, is heard about this being a link to a new and longer road which will be highly destructive of supreme unspoiled country—the half originally a part of Glacier Peak wilderness area hopes twenty and more years ago. It is still a part of the wilderness hopes of an increasingly aware citizenry.

Is everyone standing helplessly by while mountains and forests, lakes and rivers, meadows and talus that can "outrank in . . . scenic, recreational and wildlife values any existing national park and any other possibility for such a park" bow to the yoke? Many are not.

The year 1958 saw:

1. The National Parks Association urge the Forest Service and National Park Service to study the entire region to give it ultimate protection as a national park;
2. The Sierra Club find it "fully warranting protection under the basic policy of the 1916 Act establishing the National Park Service" and ready to "support a proposal for the Park Service to survey this area";
3. The North Cascades Conservation Council call for study by the NPS and FS to "recommend which parts of the region should be protected under the basic policy set forth in the National Park Act of 1916";
4. The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, following its 1957 recommendation for further studies and postponement of final boundary decisions, recognize the national park caliber of the region and request Congress to direct the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to study the entire area in order to recommend "how this region with its wilderness, scenic, wildlife, and recreational resources may best be protected by law."

In conversations on the subject, some members of Congress have been noncommittal, but not unfriendly, and they have shown an understanding of the greater problem of protecting the intangible values of natural resources as opposed to the easier way of permitting complete utilization.

ALTHOUGH the expected local opposition to preserving wilderness is apparent, many are gaining a strong understanding and desire to keep the intangible wilderness values. The best shot-in-the-arm for eventual protection is the knowledge and feeling permeating an individual when he sees the region for himself. Much credit for creating the desire to see and do for oneself must be given to the excellent film, "Wilderness Alps of Stehekin" (already seen by thousands in the West and across the nation since its release last spring). The Sierra Club's effective brochure and other publications, together with the Mountaineers' attractive folder and 1958 annual magazine featuring the region, have been important stimuli. The two-year-old North Cascades Conservation Council with its informative monthly *NCCC News* has been a key factor. Soon to be available will be their copy of Chuck Hessey's newly revised thirty-minute color and sound movie, "Glacier



WHITECHUCK FOREST

by Philip Hyde

Peak Holiday," which highlights backpacking up and down and around these wilderness alps.

*Sunset* magazine's vivid portrayal last August of the North Cascades, pointing out that none of it is more than ten miles from any road, must have been a magnet for many. The hundreds it drew to the region are discovering they like and want to keep wilderness. There are many more like them. They are the hope that might insure it.

There is some evidence that wilderness supporters might very well be in the majority if they could only be heard. Last fall a popular Seattle columnist wrote a series of articles extolling wilderness and received the largest fan mail of his career—100 to 1 in favor of wilderness.

So—the generations of 2019 *ad infinitum* can have a chance to know the wild, unspoiled North Cascades of 1959 if we and our government see to it.—If we don't let those recommendations of the National Parks Association, the Sierra Club, the NCCC, the FWOC be mere scraps of paper.—If we all back them up!

POLLY DYER



*(Above) Snoqualmie National Forest, foreground (?) to Mount Rainier;  
(below) chainsaws slash up the Whitechuck toward Glacier Peak. John  
Warth. (right) Stehekin forest floor. David R. Simons.*



Mount Rainier was timber-cropped too close for either comfort or beauty. The Forest Service has proposed the same pattern for the Whitechuck approach to Glacier Peak. Multiple-usemanship would consider this treatment of slope and forest floor good for "roadside recreation." All that is missing is the artfully painted close-up of wildlife superimposed on the foreground.



**Water or timber?** Congress charged the Forest Service with guarding the timber and water supply. Preponderant attention is still given to timber; water is now the more valuable crop. "Multiple use" (many foresters prefer to call it coordinate use) can seldom protect both crops on the same acre, but can achieve a reasonable compromise on a forest-wide basis. From steep slopes can come logs or clear streams; not both. Clear water can come from wilderness—as well as recreation, beauty, opportunities for education and research in natural laboratories, wildlife habitat, and physical well-being, all of them in perpetuity. For the Suiattle forest (right) the Forest Service has proposed clearcutting; the Bear Creek Mining Company would add strip mining. Under national park law the area could be protected.



*Wilderness watershed, Suiattle River*

*Philip Hyde*

## What Does a Wilderness Forest Mean to Water?

**Don't Miss the Sign at the Junction!** A thousand miles south of the Northern Cascades the clear waters of the Kern River flow from wilderness, much of it protected in Sequoia National Park (*true* multiple use of land). At this junction South Creek pours mud into the Kern, helps no wildlife, shortens the life of Isabella Reservoir, vital to San Joaquin Valley water users. South Creek comes from logged-over land in Sequoia National Forest. The Forest Service, overriding public protest, now pro-

poses to interlace the near-by virgin wilderness forests of the Kern Plateau with logging roads and disrupted watershed.

The same Forest Service says the real key to our future timber supply is elsewhere. The Service does not advertise all the commercial timber it could nor sell all it advertises. Substitutes for the big peeler logs of virgin forests are coming fast. The lumber industry fights wood imports and wood substitutes.

**Why the rush to spoil wilderness, watersheds, and parks?**

*When the rains come it is the same story over and over and over again! Wilderness forest protects watershed. Photo by James Riley.*



## A Quiz for Conservationists

Although over 500,000 acres of land in the United States are in State Parks, by far the greatest number of our scenic areas are in Federal ownership—which means that they are administered by one or another Federal agency. The kind of protection these lands are afforded depends upon the agency—and so does their future disposition.

As a good conservationist, or just as a plain taxpayer, how much do you know about our public lands? Are you familiar with the Federal agencies charged with the care of our most valuable scenic resources? Are you aware of their policies for present—and for future—use of these lands?

Test your knowledge with the following quiz; the answers follow (but no fair turning the page!).

### Alaska—Our Last Real Wilderness

Alaska has achieved statehood, and many are now wondering what statehood is going to mean to the last rich wilderness of immense extent left to this country. Alaskans confidently predict a population boom, though no doubt it will take many, many years to fill it with people to the extent that, say, Colorado is filled.

We who are now living will probably not see that day. But others will, and a characteristic of the conservationist is that he works not for himself alone, but for others.

Being conservationists, we have a right to be concerned about this unique value Alaska brings to the Union, and to worry about how to preserve it, in some degree at least.

The fact is that there is very little real wilderness left in the rest of the United States. Wild areas may give the imaginative some hint as to what the wilderness was like, but it can be little more than a hint when one is never more than a holler from the "outside."

Even the mighty wildernesses such as the Bob Marshall area of Montana and the Quetico-Superior have lost much of the character of the wilderness that was typical of this country a century ago. For a single example to prove this point—a wilderness breeds a wilderness type of man among the few who inhabit it seriously, and you cannot find that type of man in our own wilderness areas today, outside of Alaska. When you and I visit our wilderness, we meet others who also are visitors, or a few who cater to such visitors or correct their mistakes, but

1. With the addition of Alaska as our 49th state, the land area of the United States now totals around 2,300,000,000 acres. Approximately what percentage of this land is owned and administered by the Federal government? ☐ 12% ☐ 24% ☐ 41% ☐ 7%

2. The Federal agency having the largest area of public lands in its charge is: ☐ U.S. Forest Service ☐ National Park Service ☐ Bureau of Land Management ☐ Fish and Wildlife Service ☐ Department of Defense

3. The United States leads the world in percentage of land set aside for National Parks. ☐ True ☐ False

4. The man whose ideas about "multiple use" are most responsible for current Forest Service policy and philosophy was the renowned conservationist . . . ☐ John Muir ☐ George

Marsh ☐ Gifford Pinchot ☐ Stephen Mather

5. Areas set aside officially as wilderness in our National Forests come to approximately what per cent of our total National Forest lands? ☐ 8% ☐ 4% ☐ 38% ☐ 15%

6. Lands in Forest Service wilderness status are selected on the basis of their scenic values. ☐ True ☐ False

7. There were more recreational visits to our National Parks in 1957 than to our National Forests. ☐ True ☐ False

8. We have more Indian lands than we have lands in our Forest Service Wilderness Areas and our National Parks combined. ☐ True ☐ False

9. A "Wilderness Area" is a more or less technical term coined by the Forest Service to classify certain lands under its administration. ☐ True ☐ False

10. A "Wild Area," on the other hand, designates an area dangerous for people to enter. ☐ True ☐ False

11. It is a reasonable estimate that more area in the United States is under concrete (i.e., under cities, roads or other paved areas) than is in our National Park System. ☐ True ☐ False

12. Mining is a use permitted in our National Parks as well as in our National Forests. ☐ True ☐ False

13. The magnificent areas still remaining in primeval state in the High Sierra are protected for future generations. ☐ True ☐ False

14. All the agencies concerned with administration of our public lands are within the Department of the Interior. ☐ True ☐ False

15. The Sierra Club aided materially in the foundation of which of the following agencies ☐ Forest Service ☐ Fish and Wildlife Service ☐ National Park Service

16. There is more acreage in our National Monuments than in our National Wildlife Refuges. ☐ True ☐ False

17. Under current Forest Service policy, areas classified for recreation are under a program of modified sustained timber yield, and will eventually have every tree harvested. ☐ True ☐ False

18. The Forest Service pays for its own programs with receipts from its timber sales, while the National Park Service operates on receipts from its millions of visitors. ☐ True ☐ False

19. How many visitors does the National Park System expect in the year 1966? ☐ 26 million ☐ 100 million ☐ 55 million ☐ 80 million

20. The Sierra Club has long supported both the National Park Service and the Forest Service in their recreational and wilderness-preservation programs, and works closely with both of these agencies. ☐ True ☐ False

(Answers on page 13)



## SENATE SCOUTS EXPLORE WESTERN WILDS

[Late in November the *New York Times* published a report on the Senate field hearings on S. 4028 that troubled many people. The days passed by and no replies were published. Finally an official of the *Times* suggested that the club's executive director reply, which he did. Unfortunately the *New York* newspaper strike arrived at the same time. Seeing that the interim between report and reply would be too long, the *Times* has given the Sierra Club permission to reprint the report. David Brower's reply follows the report.—Ed.]

By JACK GOODMAN

SALT LAKE CITY.—Members of the Insular and Interior Committee of the United States Senate have been riding circuit this month—holding public hearings to determine whether there is a need for the establishment of a National Wilderness Preservation System “to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.” If such a system were to be established it would be administered by a specially created council or agency.

In hearings conducted in California, Utah and New Mexico in the last few weeks, supporters of the wilderness bill have thus far found themselves out-talked by water users who say the measure would seriously limit future power and agricultural developments; by foresters who say the bill would trim the timber potential; mining men who state natural resources would be locked up forever; and by sheep and cattlemen who view the proposed Senate Bill, Number 4028, as a threat to their livelihood.

The touring Senators gave ear to a variety of groups, including representatives of the Dude Ranchers' Association who rode in from the range (aboard commercial airliners) to plead for more wilderness. Official representatives of such sportsmen's groups as the Utah Wildlife Federation and the Jackson Hole Chapter of Izaak Walton League as well as a wilderness-minded, semi-bearded poet all turned up at Salt Lake City hearings to argue for the preservation of the type of countryside that is getting to be in short supply.

In response to appeals of this kind, however, Montana rancher, J. S. Brenner, referred to “wishful thinking and day-dreaming,” and added: “Most of us share delusions of being pathfinders and feel we were born 100 years too late. We picture ourselves leading great explorations, trapping and hunting expeditions and Indian battles. But we can't bring back those cherished days by legislation and it seems rather pathetically useless to try.”

### Better Hunting

The Wind River Outfitters' Association, represented at the Salt Lake City hearings by rancher Leslie E. Shoemaker, advocated the “perpetuation of big game herds in our area” in the interest of better hunting, and therefore favored enactment of the Wilderness Bill “without reservations.” But bemused Senators, at the

jampacked session in Salt Lake's Federal Building, moments later heard another rangeland expert maintain that too much wilderness of the positive sort can and does lead to “concentrations of elk that destroy feed and eventually destroy themselves through starvation.”

State land board and forestry officials, declaring that too much “Wild West” was too much of a good thing, said that the wilderness envisioned by “don't destroy the scenery” advocates would itself be destructive of scenic areas. And C. T. Olsen, former United States Forest Service supervisor who is currently Utah State Park and Recreation Commission Director, warned that control of insect invasions and fire is extremely difficult in roadless wilderness of the type under discussion.

Discussing a proposed “air-space” limitation which would bar flights over primitive areas, Utah's Gov. George D. Clyde called the notion “ridiculous” and said other provisions of the proposed measure violate the rights of Utah's Indians. He cited studies indicating that few recreation seekers now penetrate existing wilderness preserves, and asserted that the proposed Wilderness Preservation, “superimposed on existing and adequate administering agencies, would be a single-interest council, serving no useful purpose, but adding to the burden of expense.”

The Governor, along with both opponents and proponents of the Wilderness Bill, drew attention to the fact that Wilderness Areas, Primitive Areas, Wild Areas and Roadless Areas already exist under the jurisdiction of the United States Forest Service, along with wilderness areas within the National Parks. It was made plain that fewer than 2 per cent of all recreation seekers seem aware of the existence of such areas—a matter that irks many westerners.

One Montana stockman, discussing “the fortunate few who have time and money to hire professional packers and outfitters,” asked: “How about the average citizen? The Easterner or Westerner with a short vacation can only drive by these sacrosanct areas at a respectful distance and try to imagine the scenery, the hunting and fishing delights of roadless country. That can by no stretch of the imagination be called democracy, nor can it be honestly claimed to be preserved for all the people.”

Chiefly under scrutiny at the Senate committee hearings are the seventy-eight wildlands areas, comprising 14,000,000 acres, administered by the United States Forest Service. Except for a relatively few areas heavily used by the public, the flora-and-fauna and historical values of the national parks in the west are already preserved in perpetuity, with grazing, lumbering and mining to all intents and purposes prohibited.

### Better Conservation

The situation regarding the 181,000,000 acres of United States Forest Service lands—except for the present wilderness areas—is very different, because of multiple-use provisions applying to most Forest Service lands. Under the multiple-use philosophy, national forests are open to selective timbering, with efforts made to preserve scenic values while insuring a mone-

tary return from the publicly owned forests.

Advocates of this policy say cutting mature timber and planting and protection of new growth is “better conservation” than the wilderness philosophy practiced in National Parks under which fallen timber may be left to rot, spread disease or cause fire hazards.

Under the multiple-use concept controlled grazing is permitted, mining operations can be carried out, ski runs cleared and forest roads cut to picnic areas or lakes—situations that cannot prevail in the seventy-eight wilderness, wild, primitive or roadless areas under Forest Service jurisdiction.

From the vacationist standpoint, the existing wilderness areas deserve thoughtful consideration in both short-range and long-range terms. Of immediate concern, this off-season gives opportunity to weigh the prospects for 1959 summertime visits to such typical wilderness regions as Utah's back-country Uinta Primitive Area of 243,957 acres; to the Anaconda-Pintlar, Spanish Peaks or Absarokee Primitive Areas in Montana; Wyoming's Wind River range; or the eleven wilderness areas comprising 800,000 acres in Colorado.

Some wilderness purists prefer to hoof it into such regions, others arrange pack trips from dude ranches. In most cases, the “Wild West” being what it is today, sizable towns are situated near the end of pavement close to the preserves, and it is possible to park the family station wagon, rent a few horses, with or without guide, and enter the back country with comparative ease.

National Forest Wilderness Areas are governed under protective regulations (which will continue whether or not the Wilderness Bill passes) providing that “there shall be no roads or other provision for motorized transportation, no commercial timber cutting, and no occupancy for hotels, stores, resorts, summer homes, organization camps, hunting or fishing lodges . . .” so any shelter must be of the visitor's own providing.

Under the vagaries of past legislation, “wild” and “wilderness” areas are virtually alike except that the latter are larger; “primitive” areas differ from “wild” and “wilderness” preserves only in that they were established earlier in the nation's conservation history; while “roadless” areas are not necessarily wholly without roads, since traffic arteries and livestock routes sometimes lead to private enclaves within preserves—ranches, mines and suchlike which preceded establishment of the wildland tracts.

The High Uintas Primitive Area in Utah, fairly typical of the regions which have been the focus of the preservationist uproar, was established as long ago as 1931. It contains 13-, 498-foot Kings Peak, highest in Utah; encircles fully 1,000 mountain lakes including an estimated one hundred which have never been fished; encompasses grassy parks first visited by Robideaux, Bridger and other mountain men; and protects a goodly supply of elk, bear, lynx, Bighorn sheep and spectacular scenery.

The Bridger Wilderness Area in Wyoming, just north of Pinedale in the Wind River coun-

try, contains 13,785-foot-high Gannett Peak, highest in that state, and scenery comparable to the more accessible Jackson Hole region. In Colorado, the 62,600-acre Maroon-Snowmass Wild Area is barely a brisk walk, for seasoned hikers, from Aspen. In contrast, the San Juan Wilderness Area in the Durango region is far enough from civilization to shelter most of the state's remaining grizzly bears.

At the hearings they have been holding across the West, Senators have been meeting not a few citizens who have enjoyed camp in the Bitter Roots of Idaho, the Uncompahgre Wild Area of Colorado and the Spanish Peaks of Montana. These hearty souls have impressed upon the legislators the fact that wilderness country holds a special place in the hearts of a dedicated, well-organized group of citizens.

#### Scenic Regions Closed

But the Senators have also learned that for every man who hikes into the back country,

hundreds are obviously satisfied with what they can see in comfort from paved highways, while an intermediate number of tourists are a bit irked at finding scenic regions closed off to them by lack of passable highways.

To most nonpartisan observers attending the hearings, it would appear that the multiple-use philosophy of the Forest Service concerning most lands under its jurisdiction, coupled with the present availability of wilderness lands kept pristine both by the Forest Service and the National Park Service, provide the necessary balance of acreage for those who want their West wild and those who want their western scenic regions accessible.

Whatever the Senators, in their wisdom, decide to do as the result of the hearings, however, it might be a good idea for more vacationists to visit the fringes of the wildlands to see for themselves what all the shouting is about. —*The New York Times*, Sunday, November 23, 1958.

## Reply: Wilderness Needs an Automatic Stay of Invasion

San Francisco, California  
December 19, 1958

To the Editor of the *New York Times*:

Mr. Jack Goodman's article (*Times*, November 23) about the Senate field hearings on the Wilderness Bill was recently shown me by several people—in Rochester, Boston, New York City, Washington, Chicago, and now in San Francisco—who were disturbed by it and urged that it be answered. In the intervening period I have questioned individuals who attended all four hearings—in Bend, Oregon; San Francisco; Salt Lake City (from which Mr. Goodman filed); and Albuquerque. Their observations correlated with my own at the Bend and San Francisco hearings. The consensus: although Mr. Goodman's piece has an aura of impartiality, there is deep bias running through it and major error as well.

An important difference exists between objectivity and advocacy, and between either of these and advocacy disguised as objectivity. It is not clear that Mr. Goodman revered this distinction. To avoid the same pitfall, let me say that I strongly favor the proposed National Wilderness Preservation System and believe its creation can be the most important legislative step in conservation since 1916.

The internal evidence of the article's bias is inescapable:

1) The featured quotations from witnesses are all from statements by opponents, which are allowed to stand unanswered.

2) The descriptions of opponents are straight reporting, but those of proponents are colored.

3) The scant mention of proponents' argu-

ments is immediately answered by an opponent's statement, and at length.

4) The proponents are described as "out-talked" by the opponents, whereas I am afraid they were only outreported by Mr. Goodman. In my own biased view, opponents' arguments sounded like mimeographed versions of an original distortion. In San Francisco the proponents outnumbered the opponents by 39 to 22; the press coverage was equitable, as in Bend, and editorial comment favored the bill.

With respect to error, Mr. Goodman starts out with a big one in his first paragraph, which says, "If such a [wilderness] system were to be established it would be administered by a specially created council or agency."

This is untrue. There are other evidences that Mr. Goodman's study was cursory at best. If he found time for nothing else, he should have considered carefully the *Times* editorial of June 23, 1957, before contradicting its carefully considered language with an article seriously short of documentation. That editorial closed with a sentence worth remembering: "The Wilderness Bill has met with a bureaucratic and a special-interest opposition that its moderate and reasonable terms do not deserve."

One could hardly listen in on any of the hearings without realizing that the very opposition of the special interests in itself compellingly argues the need for the Wilderness Bill. They must know that the present protection of wilderness is conveniently weak—weak enough to allow commercial exploitation of these dedicated acres without too much trouble. The bill's added protection

would make that exploitation harder (by providing for Congressional review of what the various administrators choose to add to the system or delete from it), and therefore, they think, should be opposed with vigor. For that very reason the bill should be supported with vigor by the public as a whole.

A living wilderness, for which the proponents of the bill seek better protection, lives but once. The force of creation, uninterrupted by man's technology, has flowed there since the beginning. For all his intelligence, man has not yet learned how to restore wilderness or to phrase the questions which wilderness alone may be able to answer about the life force. Obliterate that wilderness and, as the physicist, Dr. J. A. Rush of Texas, has said, man will have cut himself off from the evolutionary force that put him on this planet and in a deeply terrifying sense will be on his own.

How shortsighted dare we get, or dare our reporting be? Wilderness is not now safe enough if its would-be invaders advocate status quo in its defenses. It needs an automatic stay of invasion from the Congress. For this fragment of living wilderness is all there is, and all that remains for future generations to inherit. It is one of the primal wonders of our land and our children have a right to know it.

In utilitarian terms, what would the destruction of wilderness gain? That which the resource developers now seem to covet to the last commercial crumb amounts to but two per cent of the area of the contiguous United States, and it contains the only two places where anyone can get more than ten miles from a road. Only a little of that two per cent is of appreciable commercial value and that little has an irreplaceable intangible value as wilderness. The small commercial potential will in itself enable no industry to survive. Wilderness may, however, have scientific and educational values that will enable mankind to survive in a civilized state. Man is bright enough, surely, to make his civilization flow around the few islands of wilderness and not over them.

The proponents' case is summed up, in another context, by Romain Gary, who, in *The Roots of Heaven*, has his man Laurentot saying:

"It's absolutely essential that man should manage to preserve something other than what helps to make soles for shoes or sewing machines, that he should leave a margin, a sanctuary, where some of life's beauty can take refuge and where he himself can feel safe from his own cleverness and folly. Only then will it be possible to begin talking of a civilization. A utilitarian civilization will always go on to its logical conclusion—forced labor camps."

Sincerely yours,

DAVID R. BROWER  
Executive Director, Sierra Club

## ANSWERS To Quiz on Page 10

1. 24%. While this Federal land does not bring in tax returns, it adds a large sum to the Treasury from its various activities.
2. The Bureau of Land Management, with 476,452,527 acres, of which 298,925,033 are in Alaska.
3. False. Only about 1% of our lands is set aside for National Parks. The small country of Japan, on the other hand, has nearly 6% of its total area in National Parks.
4. Gifford Pinchot. Pinchot became head of the Division of Forestry (forerunner of the Forest Service) in 1898, and sparked the great political conservation movement of the early 20th century.
5. 8%. Of the Forest Service's 167,238,016 acres, 13,920,448 are classified as wilderness, wild, primitive or roadless—in 82 areas.
6. False. Although many Forest Service Wilderness Areas have outstanding scenic values, they were all selected as "typical areas" of various regions in the Rockies, the Sierra and the Cascades. In great part, they tend to be high and rocky, and the timber they contain is not primarily of economic value. The conservationists believe that magnificent scenic areas should be preserved for their own worth even if they do—and perhaps in part *because* they do—contain great virgin forests "ripe for harvest."
7. False. Our National Forests were used by nearly 61,000,000 recreationists in 1957, while our National Park System totted up only about 59,000,000.
8. True. There are 55,305,000 acres of Indian Lands in the United States. (These lands are technically owned by Indian tribes or individuals, but are administered in trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.) Between our National Park System and our Forest Service Wilderness, we have around 38,000,000 acres.
9. True. "Wilderness Areas" are designated in our National Forests by the Secretary of Agriculture. They contain at least 100,000 acres. Roads, mechanized transportation, timber cutting and permanent occupation are excluded. Mining, grazing, hunting and fishing, and improvements necessary for fire protection are permitted with certain restrictions. Originally set aside as "Primitive Areas," these lands are in process of reclassification under the Forest Service U-1 and U-2 Regulations, with 4,910,453 acres (about 35%) reclassified by June 1, 1958.
10. False. A "Wild Area" is simply a smaller "Wilderness Area"—under 100,000 acres but at least 5,000 acres in size. It is subject to the same restrictions as a "Wilderness Area," but its disposition is in the hands of the Chief of the Forest Service rather than the Secretary of Agriculture. In neither case do these lands have legal protection; they are

subject to the decisions of the individual officials who control them.

11. True. And with our burgeoning urban growth and vast freeway systems, we can expect more of our land to "go under."
12. False. Although the National Park Service gets many requests for mining permits, such use is contrary to the basic National Park Act which says that scenic areas should be preserved intact for future generations. (There are rare exceptions—as during a national emergency, or when mining had already been established at the time a park was founded.) On the other hand, mining is allowed on all of our National Forests (except on small areas withdrawn from entry.)
13. False. Some highly scenic wilderness in the Sierra is in private hands. In the Tahoe Forest, for instance, every other section of some of the most scenic land belongs to the Southern Pacific Railroad. Other beautiful areas in the Sierra, notably in the south, lie within unclassified areas or parts of Forest Service "working circles," and their trees are scheduled for future harvest.
14. False. The Forest Service, while originally under the aegis of the Department of the Interior, became part of the Department of Agriculture in 1905. (The Department of Defense also administers large areas of public lands.)
15. The National Park Service, in 1916. (The Sierra Club also was active in the establishment of the Forest Service. See your Handbook for details on both of these.)

**Score yourself Highly Superior if you get all the answers. Not only are you a wise taxpayer, but you understand why conservationists act as they sometimes do! Fifteen right, and you still know more than most taxpayers; eleven right, and you can consider yourself a whiz.**

**Under ten right, you'd better study your Handbook, read this and other issues of the monthly *Sierra Club Bulletin*, and watch for the information digest to appear in February, covering government bureaus and services which deal with public lands.**

16. False. There are about 9,000,000 acres in National Monuments. Some 17,000,000 acres are administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, of which around 7,000,000 are in Alaska.
17. True. See "The Fate of Deadman Creek" in the October, 1956 issue of *SCB*.
18. False. All Forest Service receipts go either into the General Fund or are returned to the state in which the National Forest collected them. 25% of National Forest receipts are earmarked for public schools or public roads in the counties which produce the revenue; 10% goes into roads and trails within the Forests. All National Park receipts go into the General Fund also. Both agencies operate on budgets prepared by the

Bureau of the Budget and approved by Congress.

19. 80 million. (This was the expectation in 1956; the figure has recently been revised upward, however, to 100 million.)

20. True. Although there may be occasional differences of opinion between the Sierra Club and these two agencies, these are differences between friends. The Sierra Club is an organization devoted to the public interest, in contrast to the primarily economic purposes of many of the other organizations which deal with these agencies.

PEGGY AND EDGAR WAYBURN

## Billboard Standards Set

Roadside beauty as one of our natural resources gained national recognition this year through the enactment by Congress of a billboard-control provision in the Federal Aid-Interstate Highway Act. California's Senator Thomas H. Kuchel joined with Senator Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon as co-author and champion of this bill.

Since the federal legislation does not impose billboard-control standards, but only offers a bonus to those states which, by state legislative action, meet those standards, the next step is support of an adequate bill in the present legislative session.

The California Roadside Council is coordinating the campaign to secure passage of such state legislation. This will doubtless be based on the federal standards, applied not only to the new portions of the Interstate System (minimum requirement to qualify for the federal bonus) but to all limited-access highways in unincorporated areas.

Very briefly summarized, the federal standards, as published August 28, 1958, would, where applied, eliminate brand-name advertising. Motorist-service and local business establishments would be permitted to advertise but with limits on the number, size and spacing of their signs. According to our survey, the overall effect would be to reduce the total number of signs to about one-third of the number now common along freeways where advertising is allowed, and the size of signs would be drastically reduced (6x10 ft., maximum).

Letters endorsing application of the federal standards as published by the Federal Bureau of Public Roads, to all limited-access highways within the unincorporated areas in California, may be addressed to Senator John F. McCarthy, Chairman, Senate Interim Subcommittee on Control of Outdoor Advertising, Senate Offices, State Capitol, Sacramento. Copies should be sent to your own Senator and Assemblyman, and to the California Roadside Council, 12 Garces Drive, San Francisco 27.

HELEN REYNOLDS,

California Roadside Council

## Motorized Millions Favored in Parks

"New Rules in Park Favor Motorists." That headline appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on March 26, 1916, over a news item concerning access to Yosemite Valley.

Significantly, the year was the one in which the National Park Service was born. For Mission 66, the Federal program which aims to prepare the parks for a heavy visitor load by the Service's fiftieth anniversary, illustrates the eternal dilemma of fragile cultural values in a democracy.

As custodians for the people, Park officials are ordered to preserve the best remaining specimens of nature in America. As hosts and showmen, however, they are under pressure to receive and entertain the visiting proprietors *en masse*.

Of course, being motorized to an extent undreamed of in 1916, the millions of owners demand drive-in privileges. And in 1958, as in 1916, the new rules often favored the lowest common denominator—the car-bound motorists, rather than those ready to adventure a few miles or even a few yards off the beaten track.

Mission 66, a ten-year plan which will cost more than \$750,000,000, necessarily sets up goals of expanded and improved facilities. These include buildings, campsites, utilities and roads, as well as staff for protection, housekeeping and interpretive work.

During 1958, second year of the program, Yosemite National Park furnished two outstanding examples of Mission 66 in action. One we applaud, the other we deplore.

Item 1: A "utility room" site was purchased at El Portal, on the All-Year Highway just outside the park boundaries, to which many Government and concessioner facilities will be moved from the Valley.

During discussion in Congress before the purchase was authorized, Representative Clair Engle called the Valley "the most valuable piece of real estate anywhere." When the new site is in use for warehouses, laundries, employees' homes, etc., more of the heart of the park will be devoted to its proper purpose, namely the visitor's appreciation.

Item 2: Stimulated by the award in May of a \$1,738,225 contract, intended to help fight the economic recession, rebuilding was begun on the last 21 miles of the Tioga Road.

Standards of the new road had been the subject of controversy for many years. With the Bureau of Public Roads finally on the ground, bulldozer blades and dynamite carved out a disastrous defeat for the National Parks Association, Sierra Club and others who put scenic values first.

The story has been told in detail in this *Bulletin* (October and November, 1958) and the *National Parks Magazine* (October-De-

cember, 1958). Briefly, let's say that conservationists protest realigning and widening a unique high-country road to specifications that will crowd it with speeding cars, many of them merely crossing the mountains without real interest in the park.

A specific objection is to such callous spoiling of the landscape as went on last summer at Tenaya Lake. There, Ansel Adams writes, "a former roadway that balanced itself delightfully between the sloping glacial-polished granite and the beautiful blue of Tenaya has now been transformed into a causeway reaching a width of sixty feet in one place—and some of it blasted out of glacial-polished granite."

The hard fact is that the conservationists were heard by responsible officials. Park Service Director Conrad Wirth visited the location with Sierra Club officers, and the Secretary of the Interior sent a special representative. But the blasting proceeded at Tenaya, and elsewhere the new grades and curves represent a poor compromise.

Some 1,300,000 visits were made to Yosemite in 1958. More than 60,000,000 visited

the 180 areas administered by the National Park Service. The number rises each year.

The important thing is what these millions see and do in the parks. They are motorized millions. Only a fraction of them set foot in the wilderness areas. But even from the roads and view sites, what do they see? Near their camps and cabins and hotels, what do they do? Mission 66 projects will decide.

At Dinosaur and Craters of the Moon, excellent museums and interpretive programs are being created. At Yellowstone and Grand Teton, as well as in Yosemite, badly needed new camps are under construction. At Mount Rainier and elsewhere, right decisions are being made concerning sites of facilities.

But in Yosemite, and not only there, some wrong decisions are destroying national park values that cannot be replaced. There are various reasons: local commercial pressures, misunderstandings, bureaucratic errors, national pressures that come from folkways and popular tastes foreign to the park idea.

America's heritage of scenic wilderness and natural beauty depends for its preservation, to a large extent, on the national parks. Mission 66 is an opportunity to build the parks strong. Yet the lessons of 1958 indicate that conservationists must continue to be vigilant lest the end result be the opposite.

FRED GUNSKY

## NPS Checks Crystal Cave Damage

For the past two years, visitors to Crystal Cave in Sequoia National Park have been permitted to make self-guided tours of the area. Protests have arisen because of the accumulating damage, and it has now been announced that ranger-supervised tours will be resumed in Crystal Cave in 1959.

A dangerous possibility in the concept of the self-guided tour in a decorated limestone cave is that some other park or similar area may attempt the same approach. The assumption is made that rangers and guides can be eliminated or cut to a bare minimum of posted sentinels, and that the public can be casually dropped in at one entrance of a cave and removed at an exit. The primary fallacy in this concept is that cave decorations such as delicate stalactites and draperies cannot be handled freely. It is impossible to adequately educate visitors in this respect; children, careless or forgetful adults, and the omnipresent small percentage of vandals all take their toll of the fragile calcite forms.

Unlike Sequoias or rare wildlife, caves do not renew themselves—at least not within the memory of man. We measure the lifespan of the Big Trees in thousands of years. Cave ages are probably to be measured in units of tens or hundreds of thousands; the growth is so slow that our information is

scanty and incomplete. Consequently, carelessness or vandalism may cause irremediable damage.

Exactly how much damage was done at Crystal Cave? Probably this will never be completely determined, since no public records exist for the period prior to the self-guiding experiment. During an investigation made last summer, four vandalism incidents—two of them causing permanent damage to the cave—were witnessed within a period of five hours. Recognizing the situation, the Park Service has discontinued self-guided tours.

Crystal Cave, and many other protected caves, face serious problems in future years because of overcrowding. Some of these problems are solvable; for others there are no adequate solutions at present. In any case, the answer is not to utilize policies which destroy the caves in a single generation, as might have been the case at Crystal. There may be complaints from visitors who have to wait for a guide and then adjust themselves to the pace of a supervised tour, but tourists who might chafe at the restrictions of a formal tour will at least be able to visit the cave again ten or twenty years in the future; there would have been no such future under the self-guiding system.

RAY DE SAUSSURE

*A park behind glass*

## Mission 66 Tragedy

Less well known than the glaciated shore of Yosemite's Tenaya Lake was the superb glacier polish below the lake which for centuries to come could have brought wonder to those who cared to take the short stroll from the campground. There was no better display anywhere of the fineness of a glacier's work. It was the special kind of naturalness that a national park is created to preserve unimpaired. Lesser things might be sacrificed; not this. It was on the edge of wilderness, which gave it extra meaning to people wishing to pause in their drive along Tioga—to get out from behind windshields for a change of pace in a world unspoiled.

The realigned Tioga Road need not have touched this sector at all; it could have kept in general to the old route—all well within published park road standards. The routine arguments for wilderness invasion were heeded. The road is now irrevocably *there*. (It has been argued that we should not present the corpse, but wait until grass grows on the grave. To seek this escape would be to fail to face what we have lost.)

The Park Service Director gave out instructions that road standards were to be lower. They were raised. In this immediate sector he directed that a lower alternative be used. The road was blasted higher. Acting Secretary Bennett ordered a less-damaging route for the part not yet blasted (as reported here in October). This order was being defied, club representatives discovered just before winter snows stopped the work. There is now a new assurance that the Secretary's order will be followed.

Too late, too little. It was as if the bulldozers had minds of their own, determined to grade—and degrade—the parks. The Park Service has a policy for roads which is fine in its language as far as it goes. But the roads—high-speed park highways—don't speak that language. The Tioga Road wasn't even listening.

Now more area is seen behind glass—the glass of speeding windshields. But there is less park to see—a needless sacrifice a stubborn few inflicted here on all the generations to come.

*Top and lower left are National Parks Association photographs by Joseph Carithers. The others and text are by David Brower. Full documentation of every word is on file.*



## New Trouble in Dinosaur?

Year's end brought an alarming remark: "There is no doubt in my mind that we must have the Echo Park Dam," Utah's Senator Bennett said. "The only question is the timing."

"The risk to the Colorado River Storage Project is too great to even consider trying to obtain the authorization of Echo Park Dam in the immediate future," replied Ival Goslin, secretary-engineer of the Upper Colorado River Commission.

This exchange seemed cynical to conservationists; found them remembering . . .

\* \* \* \* \*

Before the Colorado Storage Project-Echo Park battle reached fever pitch, there was a bill in Congress to make a national park of Dinosaur National Monument, embracing its great Yampa and Green canyons.

Then came the Great Controversy, and both conservationists and reclamationists had to wait until it could be resolved.

Conservationists never opposed proper water development for the Upper Basin states, but called upon reclamationists to drop Echo Park dam from their project—abandon any "secret hopes" for it.

The reclamationists agreed in late 1955. "Echo Park dam is dead," one of them put it; "if you want us to say this any other way to make it clearer, we'll do it." Conservationists asked that the bill which set the policy for the massive project state that it be the intent of the Congress that no project dam or reservoir be in any park or monument.

The language went in. The elimination of Echo Park dam was announced by Secretary Douglas McKay, Sherman Adams, President Eisenhower; erstwhile supporters of the dam repeated this on the floor of the House during final debate. The Senate-House conference agreed, the President signed the Project bill, and work was soon under way. Conservationists commended the Upper Basin proponents for what they had done and were silent as the appropriations were voted.

Echo Park had been saved, and could now, as the second part of the resolution of the controversy, receive its well-deserved status as a full-fledged Dinosaur National Park. Congressmen Wayne Aspinall and John Saylor introduced bills for this purpose in the 84th Congress. A report from the Administration was promised. But word got around that the Bureau of Reclamation was holding it up. Conservationists worked, then waited. Nothing happened. Congress went home.

Congressman Saylor put his bill in again in the 85th Congress and Senator Gordon Allott introduced one that included a sentence conservationists feared would supersede the exclusion of Echo Park dam.

Again no report from the Administration, no hearings until the last minute, and static from Utah. Congress went home again. . . .

\* \* \* \* \*

And now the 86th Congress, with Echo Park dam back in the headlines. Encouraging and laudable opposition to it by people who remembered the bargain—Congressman Aspinall, now Chairman of the House Interior Committee; Senator Clinton Anderson, key man on the Senate Interior Committee; the *Salt Lake Tribune*; the *Denver Post*. But in between the lines of others' remarks was the hint of abrogation of the agreement—and in some lines no hint at all, but outright opportunism: "Not just now, you'll rock the boat," they are saying in effect; "wait until we've safely had enough years' appropriations to have the whole project irrevocably under way. Then we'll push for Echo Park dam."

Conservationists now know well the double sacrifice made elsewhere on the Colorado: (1) the superb scenic resource, irreplaceable, of Glen Canyon itself, once considered for national-monument status and urged as a magnificent national park by a Utah Committee; (2) of precious water evaporated in Glen Canyon to produce power which could come in abundance from other sources—a waste of water demonstrated by a U.S. Geological Survey study released after the project got under way.

In 1956 many members of Congress chided conservationists for acceding too soon. The question is now being raised in many places whether further appropriations for the project should await the creation of Dinosaur National Park.

Conservationists are idealists who believe in believing, and would rather take a man at his word. But the uneasy stirrings show that they are not naïve. D.R.B.

## "Wilderness cards from the Sierra Club"

The Northern Cascades of Washington are the subject of the first series of postcards in natural color that the Sierra Club is undertaking to publish—all from transparencies made by members—to provide.

- more support for wilderness from broad distribution of out-of-the-ordinary views in color.
- a chance to share more widely the color transparencies most members are making.
- color plates for other publications.

In the main, the cards are to let more people know what kind of good country the club works for and needs help for in the good work. The Northern Cascades series will be available at showings of the film, "Wilderness Alps of Stehekin," from the club office and chapters, and in the Cascades region itself.

In the beginning, at least, the club is not seeking "typical postcard views." The cover was a 4×5, this a 2¼×2¼, page 9 a sharp 35mm.

*Huckleberry time on the Sahale Arm, Cascade Pass, Stehekin watershed. Color photo by Grant McConnell.*



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